LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-37. (canceled).

38. (previously presented) A method of preparing a hypoallergenic metal amino acid chelate composition, comprising:

a) selecting an amino acid source determined to be hypoallergenic;

b) selecting a metal source determined to be hypoallergenic; and

c) chelating an amino acid of the amino acid source to a metal of the metal source to form a hypoallergenic metal amino acid chelate composition.

39. (original) A method as in claim 38, wherein during the step of selecting the amino acid source, if a first amino acid source is not hypoallergenic, additional amino acid sources are evaluated until a hypoallergenic amino acid source is ascertained.

40. (original) A method as in claim 38, wherein during the step of selecting the metal source, if a first metal source is not hypoallergenic, additional metal sources are evaluated until a hypoallergenic metal source is ascertained.

41. (original) A method as in claim 38, wherein the amino acid source is not prepared by protein hydrolysis.

42. (original) A method as in claim 38, wherein the amino acid source is prepared by protein hydrolysis, and wherein the protein used in the hydrolysis is hypoallergenic.

43. (original) A method as in claim 38, wherein the amino acid source is rendered hypoallergenic after formation, but before chelation with the metal.

44. (original) A method as in claim 38, further comprising selecting an additive determined to be hypoallergenic, and including the additive as a mixture with the hypoallergenic metal amino acid chelate.

45. (original) A method as in claim 44, wherein the additive is selected from the group consisting of hypoallergenic organic acids, hypoallergenic free amino acids, hypoallergenic amino acid salts, hypoallergenic fillers, hypoallergenic flow control agents, hypoallergenic lubricants, hypoallergenic flow agents, hypoallergenic hydroscopicity reducing agents, hypoallergenic pH control agents, hypoallergenic catalysts, hypoallergenic vitamins, hypoallergenic dust control agents, hypoallergenic binders, hypoallergenic disintegrating agents, hypoallergenic flavoring agents, hypoallergenic flavoring agents, hypoallergenic taste-reducing agents, hypoallergenic capsule shells, hypoallergenic shellacs, hypoallergenic waxes, hypoallergenic gelatin sources, hypoallergenic emulsifiers, hypoallergenic oils, and combinations thereof.

46. (previously presented) A method of administering a metal amino acid chelate composition, comprising:

a) identifying a subject susceptible to a type of allergic reaction;

b) formulating a metal amino acid chelate by:

i) selecting an amino acid source determined to be hypoallergenic with respect to the type of allergic reaction;

ii) selecting a metal source determined to be hypoallergenic with respect to the type of allergic reaction, and

iii) chelating an amino acid of the amino acid source to a metal of the metal source to form a hypoallergenic metal amino acid chelate composition; and

c) administering the hypoallergenic metal amino acid composition to the subject.

47. (original) A method as in claim 46, wherein the subject is allergic to at least one of soy, peanuts, tree nuts, crustaceans, finfish, dairy, wheat, eggs, corn, gelatin, whey, chocolate, and strawberries.

48. (original) A method as in claim 46, wherein during the step of selecting the amino acid source, if a first amino acid source is not hypoallergenic, additional amino acid sources are evaluated until a hypoallergenic amino acid source is ascertained.

49. (original) A method as in claim 48, wherein during the step of selecting the metal source, if a first metal source is not hypoallergenic, additional metal sources are evaluated until a hypoallergenic metal source is ascertained.

50. (original) A method as in claim 46, wherein the amino acid source is prepared by a method other than protein hydrolysis.

51. (original) A method as in claim 46, wherein the amino acid source is prepared by protein hydrolysis, and wherein the protein used in the hydrolysis is hypoallergenic.

52. (original) A method as in claim 46, wherein the amino acid source is rendered hypoallergenic after formation, but before chelation with the metal.

53. (original) A method as in claim 46, further comprising steps of selecting an additive determined to be hypoallergenic, and including the additive as a mixture with the hypoallergenic metal amino acid chelate.

54. (original) A method as in claim 52, wherein the additive is selected from the group consisting of hypoallergenic organic acids, hypoallergenic free amino acids, hypoallergenic amino acid salts, hypoallergenic fillers, hypoallergenic flow control agents, hypoallergenic lubricants, hypoallergenic flow agents, hypoallergenic hydroscopicity reducing agents, hypoallergenic pH control agents, hypoallergenic catalysts, hypoallergenic vitamins, hypoallergenic dust control agents, hypoallergenic binders, hypoallergenic disintegrating agents, hypoallergenic flavoring agents, hypoallergenic flavoring agents, hypoallergenic taste-reducing agents, hypoallergenic capsule shells, hypoallergenic shellacs, hypoallergenic waxes, hypoallergenic gelatin sources, hypoallergenic emulsifiers, hypoallergenic oils, and combinations thereof.